



Mullen Fire Daily Update

Tuesday, September 29, 2020: 11:00 am

Fire Facts

Location

38 miles west of Laramie, Wyoming

Fire size today: 82,649

Fire start date: September 17, 2020

Cause: Under investigation. Call Laramie Ranger District anonymous tip line 307-745-2392 with information that may aid the fire investigation.

Containment: 0%

Resources: 738 firefighters

Mandatory Evacuations:

Multiple evacuations and pre-evacuations are in place. See the Albany County Sheriff's Office's Facebook Page or Albany County website for the latest list:

<https://www.facebook.com/Albany-County-Sheriffs-Office-618424944997540>

<https://www.co.albany.wy.us/>

Forest and County Restrictions:

Stage 2 Fire Restrictions

- Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland: https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/fseprd786902.pdf
- Albany County: <https://www.co.albany.wy.us/247/Fire-Restrictions>

Temporary Flight Restriction:

In effect for the fire area:

<https://tinyurl.com/y3foyxtw>

Management:

Rocky Mountain Type 2 Blue Team

Virtual Community Q&A TODAY at 5 p.m.

The meeting will be livestreamed on the Mullen Fire Information page (<https://www.facebook.com/MullenFire>)

Summary: Crews worked yesterday on structure protection in multiple communities, which included both developed areas close to the fire's perimeter and those a few miles further to the south and west. Air operations played a big role in tactics after two days of waiting for reduced wind speeds to return to the skies. Today, they use retardant to strategically pre-treat areas adjacent to values at risk.

Firefighters prioritized assessing properties for any damaged or destroyed buildings. They shared their findings with the Albany County Sheriff's Office who took the lead on directly contacting affected homeowners.

Additional crews have been reassigned to the Mullen Fire after being released from fires in the Pacific Northwest. This allows previously unstaffed areas of the fire to be more closely monitored or to be scouted for possible construction of indirect fire line.

Crew will also be conducting fire severity assessments. Often fires will burn in a mosaic pattern, leaving pockets of both burned and unburned fuels. However, when a fire with high intensity quickly moves through an area, it may leave larger swaths of blackened soil and vegetation. This factors into any whether any stabilization or rehabilitation may be needed at a later date.

No containment will be declared until heat near the perimeter has been deemed unlikely to grow beyond any established fire line. This involves monitoring the fire line and adjacent areas for several days for smoldering stumps or trees, ash pits, or any other heat sources.

Fire Conditions and Weather: Warmer temperatures are expected to return to the area along with a dry air mass. The combination of low humidity and gusting winds will result in near-critical fire weather conditions. Increased fire activity is likely the next several days; extreme fire behavior is possible.

Closures and Restrictions: WY 11 from the junction with County Road 47 (Fox Creek Road.) into Albany. County Road 47 between WYO 11 and WYO 230. WY 230 from the CO border to Meadow Plains Road. WYO 10 from WYO 230 to the CO state line. There is no estimate on when these roads might reopen.

Forest Closure:

In effect surrounding the Mullen Fire. For details, see the new Forest Closure Order <https://tinyurl.com/yyanh6ey> and the new Forest Closure Area Map <https://tinyurl.com/y3wh7bv3>

Fire information: Hours 8am – 9pm Public Line: 307-745-2378 Media Line: 307-461-9456

Mullen Fire Inciweb: <http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/7208>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MullenFire/>

Twitter: Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests and Thunder Basin National Grassland - @FS_MBRTB

Email: 2020.Mullen@Firenet.gov #MullenFire_WY